

Refreshing Investment in Children's Health

Using the Sugary Drinks Tax to improve
healthy food access in schools'

Webinar

Monday 18 January
11 — 12.15 pm



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SMART**

sustain
the alliance for better food and farming

Speakers:

Robert Halfon MP

Chair of the Education Select
Committee

Emma Lewell-Buck MP

South Shields

Alysa Remtulla

Magic Breakfast and National School
Breakfast Programme

Laura Flanagan

School Food Improvement Officer,
Croydon Council

Vera Zakharov

Sustain and Sugar Smart UK

Barbara Crowther

Children's Food Campaign

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Report findings and recommendations

Vera Zakharov, Sustainable Food Places Local Action Coordinator, Sustain

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Acknowledgements and thanks

- Schools, council teams and organisations
- School Food Matters, Soil Association & Sustainable Food Places
- Individuals who wrote to their MPs
- MPs who raise these issues in Parliament



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Background

- SDIL investment in children's health welcomed by campaigners and local areas
- Very limited info on how HPCF was spent, mainly from Academy Trusts
- No further info on future funding for healthy food access apart from breakfast clubs
- Great examples emerging from local areas
- Need to support our policy calls with detailed recommendations
- Ensure they fit with local needs



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Survey & case studies feedback

- 90 respondents
- Limited uptake; majority for PE projects
- Diversity of food projects funded by HPCF
- Challenges around lead time
- Where councils involved, added capacity and guidance increased uptake
- Diverse approaches to ensure best impact
- Opportunities to monitor impact & build on one-off funding



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Recommendations on spend of SDIL revenue

- Govt transparency and accountability
- At least 50% of spend on food-related children's health programmes
- Establish a Healthy Food Innovation Fund
- Continue scaling up National School Breakfast Programme ahead of securing permanent statutory provision



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Healthy Food Innovation Fund

Key principles:

- **Food-focused:** A fund that can meet local demand for food-related projects to improve children's health in schools that are otherwise difficult to resource.
- **Flexible:** A fund that allows for a diversity of locally-designed approaches that are joined up, target for greatest impact, and allow better evaluation.
- **Future-proof:** A multi-year commitment to a fund that is not limited solely to capital, allowing continuation of investment, local innovation and building on previous learning.



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Types of projects it could fund

Provision

- Cooking & dining facilities improvement
- Drinking fountains
- Mobile healthy food provision
- After-school & holiday club investment

Education

- Growing & outdoor education
- Cookery education
- Teacher training



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Types of projects it could fund

Community-building & beyond the gate

- Mobile food education bus
- Dedicated food teacher training facilities
- Farm visits and offsite education activities



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Thank you!

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Healthy Pupils Capital Funding (HPCF) 2018

London Borough Croydon

Overview of HPCF in Croydon

- Funding was allocated to schools based on NCMP data.
- Schools were able to submit project proposals based on 1 or more of our 4 designated project areas:

1. Improvements to dining spaces

2. Improving access to water

3. Improving teaching kitchens or mobile teaching equipment

4. Promotion of food growing

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Healthy Pupils Capital Funding (2018-2019) – A GUIDE FOR SCHOOLS

What is the HPCF funding?
The Healthy Pupils Capital Funding (HPCF) is being made available to schools for 1 academic year (2018-2019), from revenues raised from the Soft Drinks Industry Sugar Levy. The Levy commenced in April 2018 and £100m of revenues raised will form the national Healthy Pupil Capital Fund, to be made available to schools via the local authority.

What is the funding for?
The HPCF is intended for schools to spend on facilities that will directly impact on healthier eating or physical activity and in turn support improved mental health and wellbeing. The funding that your school will receive can be spent on the areas demonstrated in the table below.

How will this funding support pupils in Croydon?
Childhood obesity is a major concern both nationally and locally with an average of 37.7% of year 6 pupils in Croydon being above a healthy weight. The food and drink that pupils consume during the school day plays a significant part in providing the energy, nutrients and hydration that children need to live healthy lives and achieve well in school.

Please note: In Croydon, we are focusing the funding on improvements linked to healthy eating, as the PE and sports premium funding can be used for physical activity.

Project areas for HPCF spend	Examples of acceptable spend within this area	Photo ideas – examples from local schools
<p>1.Improvements to dining spaces Physical improvements to the dining space to make it more appealing to pupils and encourage uptake of breakfast or school lunches</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •New tables and chairs •New food service equipment e.g. salad bar, hot counter, chilled units, separate fruit/dessert trolley •New equipment/furniture to ensure accessibility for all pupils •New clearing stations •Refurbishment of a dining space •Improvements to school kitchen to improve service and increase school meal uptake 	
<p>2.Improving access to water Promoting a water and milk only policy in primary schools and low sugar only drinks in secondary schools</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Installation of water fountains across the school site with bottle refill taps •Installation of water coolers across the school site for pupils, families and staff •Purchase of water dispensers for around school or in the canteen •Plumbing in of any new water installations 	

The success of projects



Laura Flanagan

What worked well

- The funding was for a specific purpose.
- It raised the profile of pupil health and changes that could be made to encourage healthier behaviours.
- It resulted in changes that wouldn't have happened otherwise.

Staff feel the children's behaviour has improved in the dining hall as a result of the changes and more pupils are definitely eating a school meal.

Drinking water has now become a fun part of the children's daily routine.